

3 November 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Houston

SUBJECT : Meeting with Chairman Eisenhower

1. Dick Tufaro called this morning. He had talked with Chairman Eisenhower; Eisenhower told him you were coming up to see him and Eisenhower asked Tufaro to find out a little more of what the meeting was about so that he could "be more comfortable" in meeting with you. Tufaro wanted to either talk about it by telephone or come out here. We, I think, finished it by our telephone conversation.

2. I told Mr. Tufaro our problem, in essence, was that the Director himself has reviewed these documents and has concluded that they cannot be declassified. In view of this situation, the Committee really could do nothing upon its review other than to advise Mr. Helms that the Committee does not agree and request Mr. Helms to reconsider, or to advise the President or Dr. Kissinger that the Committee does not agree. I said also the problem includes the desire that we should not operate in such a way as to put the President in the position of having to dispose of what amounts to a dispute between CIA and the ICRC, partly, but not only, because it is a picayune matter. The other element of the problem is that the ICRC machinery exists, and exists publicly. Tufaro quoted Eisenhower as referring to a compromise and he wondered what this meant. Did it mean we might sanitize a portion of these documents and give them to the AP with the hope or expectation that this would satisfy the AP? I indicated this was not the intention, but I did not specifically spell out a compromise in the nature of the letter we have prepared for Chairman Eisenhower's address to the AP. I did not say we are trying to avoid having the ICRC review our documents, in line with our draft letter. I said it was the above three-prong problem which Mr. Houston wanted to discuss with Mr. Eisenhower and I ventured that the result of the meeting might be simply that Mr. Eisenhower understands our problem and position

more than he now does. Tufaro's response to this was that Eisenhower is sensitive to it and, in fact, the two of them have discussed both the CIA and the NSC appeals now before the Committee and in these considerations Eisenhower has been aware of the CIA problems.

3. I mentioned that a feature of the problem is the inability of a Committee member or any non-expert to conclude that sources and methods are not involved in the face of a determination to the contrary by the agency that owns or is responsible for the source or method. Tufaro did not entirely agree to this, pointing out that in our own reviews surely we had to make such determinations. I told him that indeed we had.

4. Tufaro said he would summarize this for Mr. Eisenhower, whether he is doing it by letter or orally or both I do not know.



Associate General Counsel

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cc: SA/Information Control

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